



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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OCTOBER 12, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE, PURCHASED ABOUT 2 KILOS PER WEEK

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine.

Lamont M. Rowe, 20, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan this morning to charges contained in a March 30, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty, **Rowe** admitted that he conspired to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Sept. 1, 2004, and March 1, 2005, in Jackson County, Mo. Specifically, **Rowe** admitted that he was purchasing about two kilograms of crack cocaine a week. **Rowe** also pleaded guilty to illegally possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime on Feb. 8, 2005, in Jackson County. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal to possess a firearm during or in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

Rowe is the second co-defendant to plead guilty in this case.

On Sept. 9, 2005, **Hernandez D. Green**, 35, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine. By pleading guilty, **Green** admitted that he also conspired to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine between Sept. 1, 2004, and March 1, 2005, in Jackson County.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, the co-defendants may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$4 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles E. Ambrose. The case was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow